

REMARKS

With the foregoing amendments, claims 9-25, 36-40, and 49-60 are presented for favorable consideration. Claims 1-8, 26-35, and 41-48 have been cancelled without prejudice and with the right of applicants to file divisional applications thereon.

In response to the restriction requirement, applicant hereby elects the Group II claims (claims 9-25, 36-40, and 49-60). All other claims have been cancelled without prejudice and with the reservation of applicants' right to file divisional applications thereon.

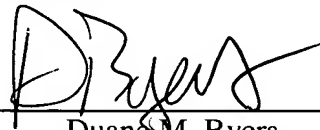
Applicants submit that the claims now pending in this case are in allowable condition because of no known prior art covering those claims. A notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

If the examiner has any questions concerning this case, the undersigned may be contacted at 703-816-4009.

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYTE P.C.

By: _____



Duane M. Byers
Reg. No. 33,363

DMB:lfo
901 North Glebe Road, 11th Floor
Arlington, VA 22203-1808
Telephone: (703) 816-4000
Facsimile: (703) 816-4100